

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (Original) A water-based ink composition for a writing instrument comprising at least a colorant and water, wherein a nonionic high molecular surfactant having an alkylene oxide chain as a hydrophilic group and having an average molecular weight of 3000 to 200,000 is added to the ink composition in a range of 0.1 to 30 % by weight.
2. (Original) The water-based ink composition for a writing instrument as described in claim 1, wherein the nonionic high molecular surfactant has an HLB of 8 or more or a cloud point of 50°C or higher.
3. (Currently Amended) The water-based ink composition for a writing instrument as described in claim [[1 or]] 2, wherein the nonionic high molecular surfactant is N-polyoxyalkylenepolyalkylenepolyamine.
4. (Currently Amended) The water-based ink composition for a writing instrument as described in claim [[1 or]] 2, wherein the nonionic high molecular surfactant is a polyoxyethylenepolyoxypropylene block polymer.

5. (Currently Amended) A ballpoint pen using the water-based ink composition for a writing instrument as described in any claim 4.

6. (Currently Amended) A marking pen using the water-based ink composition for a writing instrument as described in ~~any of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 4.

7. (Currently Amended) A fountain pen using the water-based ink composition for a writing instrument as described in ~~any of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 4.

8. (New) The water-based ink composition for a writing instrument as described in claim 1, wherein the nonionic high molecular surfactant is N-polyoxyalkylenepolyalkylenepolyamine.

9. (New) The water-based ink composition for a writing instrument as described in claim 1, wherein the nonionic high molecular surfactant is a polyoxyethylenepolyoxypropylene block polymer.

10. (New) A ballpoint pen using the water-based ink composition for a writing instrument as described in claim 9.

11. (New) A ballpoint pen using the water-based ink composition for a writing instrument as described in claim 8.

12. (New) A ballpoint pen using the water-based ink composition for a writing instrument as described in claim 3.

13. (New) A ballpoint pen using the water-based ink composition for a writing instrument as described in claim 2.

14. (New) A ballpoint pen using the water-based ink composition for a writing instrument as described in claim 1.

15. (New) A marking pen using the water-based ink composition for a writing instrument as described in claim 9.

16. (New) A marking pen using the water-based ink composition for a writing instrument as described in claim 8.

17. (New) A marking pen using the water-based ink composition for a writing instrument as described in claim 3.

18. (New) A marking pen using the water-based ink composition for a writing instrument as described in claim 2.

19. (New) A marking pen using the water-based ink composition for a writing instrument as described in claim 1.

20. (New) A fountain pen using the water-based ink composition for a writing instrument as described in claim 9.

21. (New) A fountain pen using the water-based ink composition for a writing instrument as described in claim 8.

22. (New) A fountain pen using the water-based ink composition for a writing instrument as described in claim 3.

23. (New) A fountain pen using the water-based ink composition for a writing instrument as described in claim 2.

24. (New) A fountain pen using the water-based ink composition for a writing instrument as described in claim 1.